

# Mayor's Message



I would like to highlight the opportunities for the South Gippsland community to engage with Council.

At the end of January, a new community survey was launched to assist with gaining an in-time snapshot of our challenges, priorities and likes. The results from this survey will be used to develop a regional profile that will be used by Councillors and Council staff alike to guide policy, future planning, decision making, strategy and program development.

As Councillors, it is our responsibility to represent the South Gippsland community to the best of our ability, and having a piece of work like this completed can help us do that even more effectively.

I know what you're thinking, you've just done a survey for the Community Vision, so how is this different?

In contrast to the Community Vision which aims to gather the aspirations you have for South Gippsland in the year 2040, this survey is seeking feedback on what you are experiencing right now. These two pieces of work complement each other and together will create a complete 'now and then' overview of our community.

7,800 surveys will be distributed to randomly selected households across South Gippsland which I strongly encourage you to complete. If you don't receive one in your letter box, there is an online survey that is open for you to complete so your voice can be heard as well. To complete the survey before 20 February, please visit [yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Bookings are open for 'A Day on the Course' at Stony Creek racecourse after being rescheduled twice already due to COVID-19 restrictions. Hopefully third time lucky!

The event features an impressive line-up of Australian artists and local stallholders so you have the perfect mix of music and market.

The event is being coordinated by Council with funding support from the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation and the Victorian Government's Outdoor Activation Program. The Stony Creek racecourse was selected to highlight that racecourses can be enjoyed for more than gambling. They can be a great place for our community to gather and for families to enjoy a day of music, food and fun.

Tickets are available now for \$15 per person, with children under 15 granted admission free of charge. Gates open on Saturday 19 February at 2.30pm and close at 10.30pm, so it really will be a great day out.

For more information and to book your tickets, please visit [www.adayonthecourse.com](http://www.adayonthecourse.com)

I would like to extend my congratulations to Phillip Jones of Leongatha South for being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to the science and study of wine and winemaking. I would also like to congratulate Wilsons Promontory Cruises, Destination Gippsland, Tour Local and Trulli's for being recognised for their achievements at the Victorian Tourism Awards Gala Ceremony on 3 February. You have done our region proud.

**Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor**